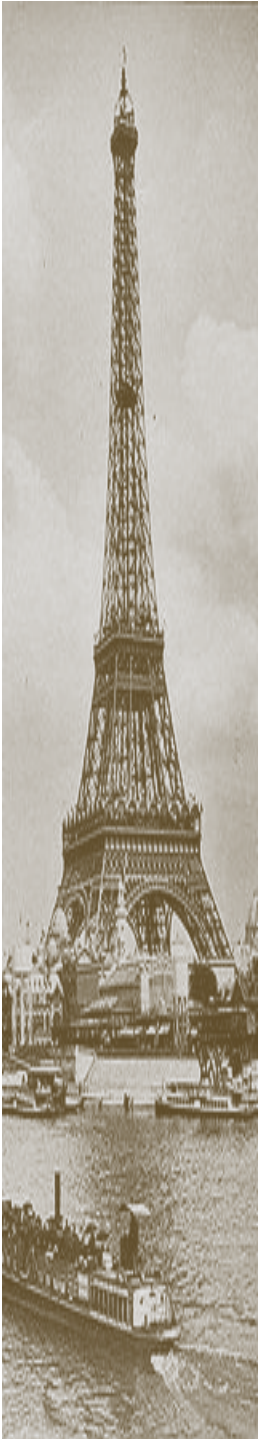




England  
&  
France  
During  
*La Belle Epoque*  
1871-1914  
*Ch. 24*



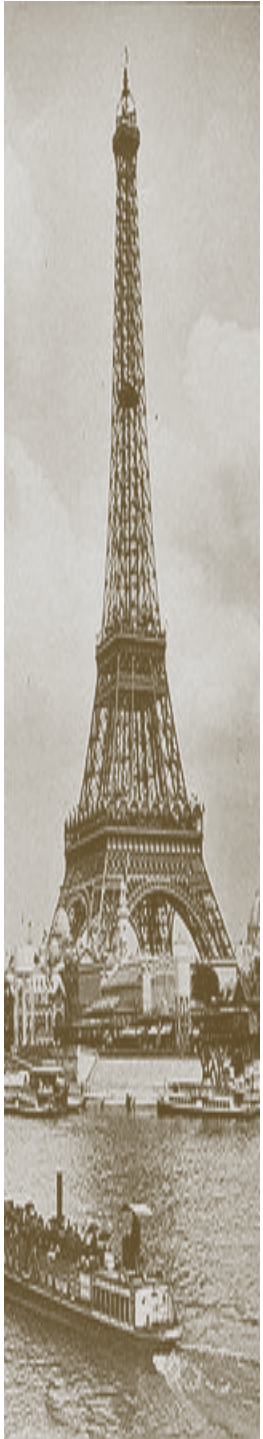


# Essential Question:

*How “democratic”  
did Britain & France  
become by the  
beginning  
of the 20<sup>c</sup>?*







# The Third French Republic:

**The Paris Commune**





# Third French Republic Declared!

- ★ September, 1870 after France's defeat at the Battle of Sedan in Franco-Prussian War
- ★ Napoleon III was captured abdicated the throne.
- ★ New government headed by **Adolphe Thiers**.
  - This new government continued the fight against the Germans who laid siege to Paris.
  - To defend Paris, a National Guard was raised numbering over 350,000.
- ★ France surrendered in February, 1871 after 40,000 Parisians died.





# The Third French Republic

- ★ Thiers' government was seen as:
  - Too conservative.
  - Too royalist.
  - Too ready to accept a humiliating peace with Prussia.
- ★ Prussian troops marched into Paris in March, 1871.
- ★ The French government established itself at Versailles, NOT in Paris.
  - Parisians were angered by this.
  - They opposed the policies of this new government.
  - It attempted to restore order in Paris.

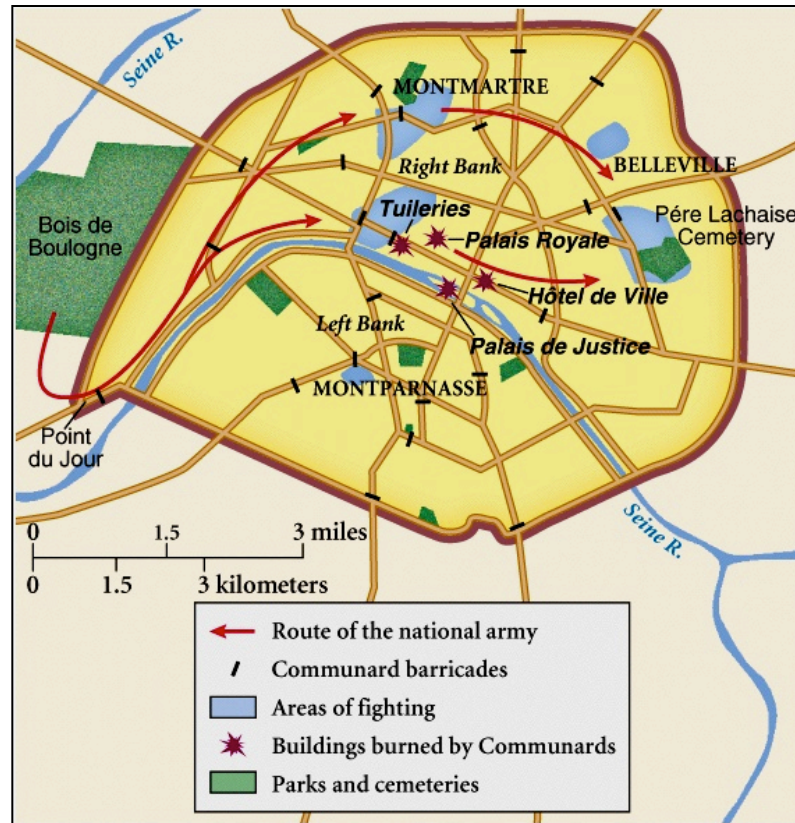






# Paris in Revolt!

- ★ The **Paris Commune [Communards]** was elected on March 28 and established itself at the Hôtel de Ville.



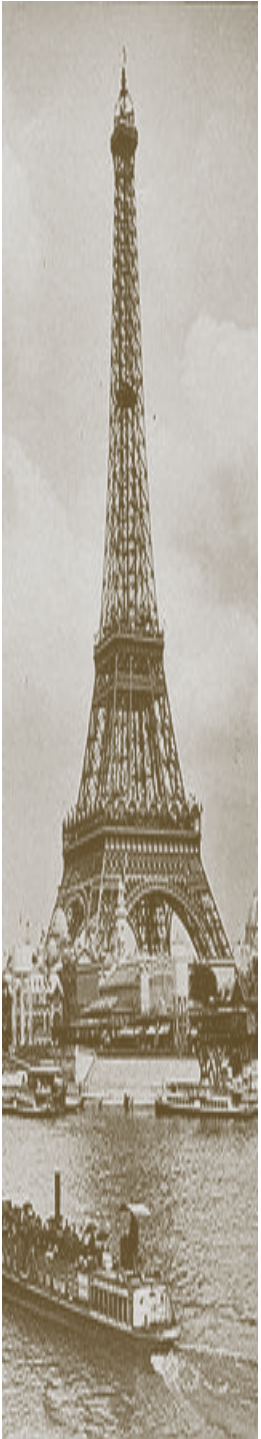
# Civil War!



Troops from  
Versailles

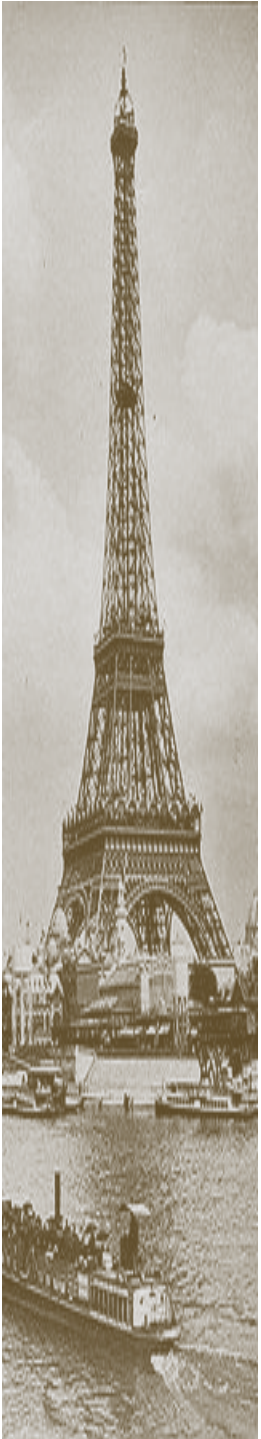
Communards

- ★ The Commune was suppressed by government troops led by **Marshal Patrice MacMahon** during the last week of May, 1871.
- ★ Known as the “Bloody Week.”



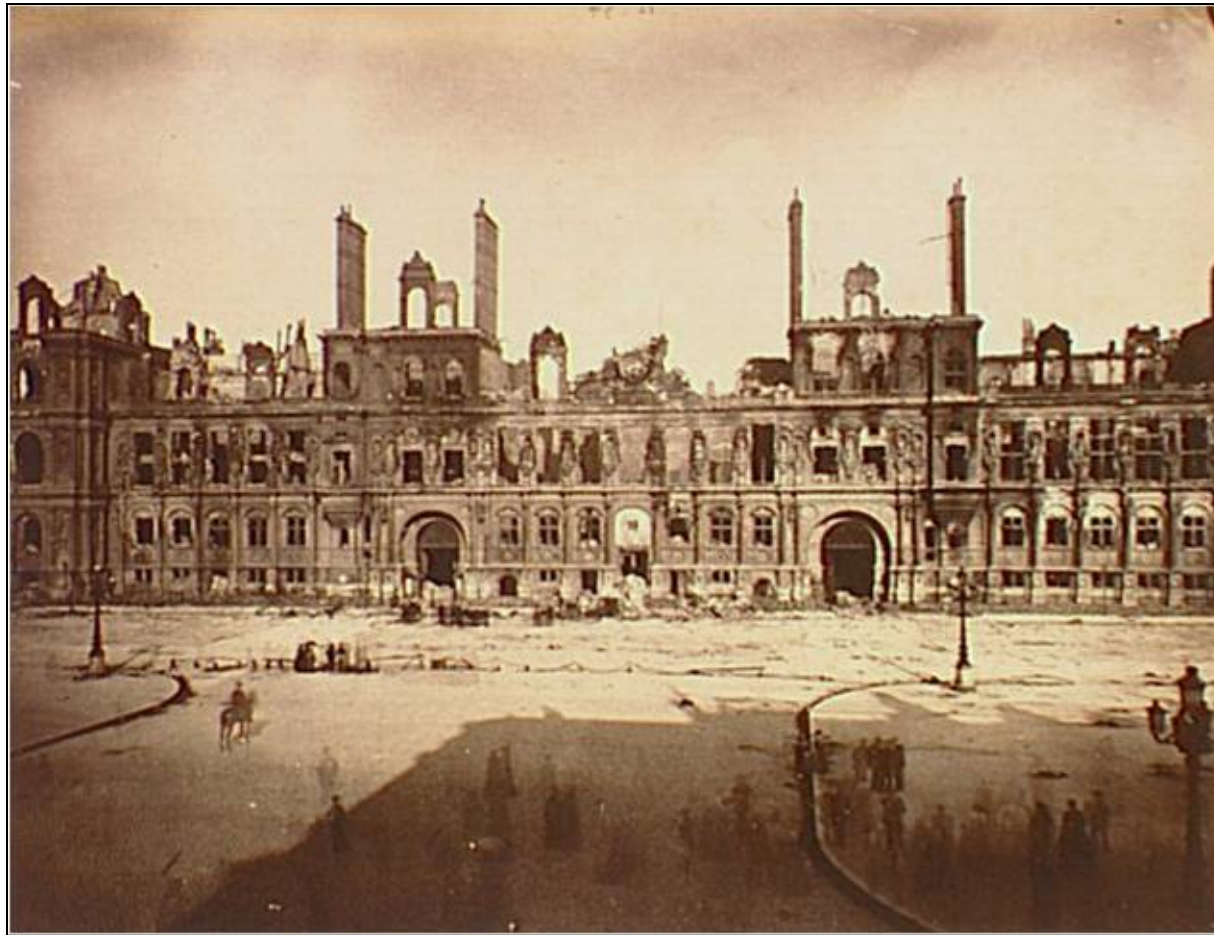
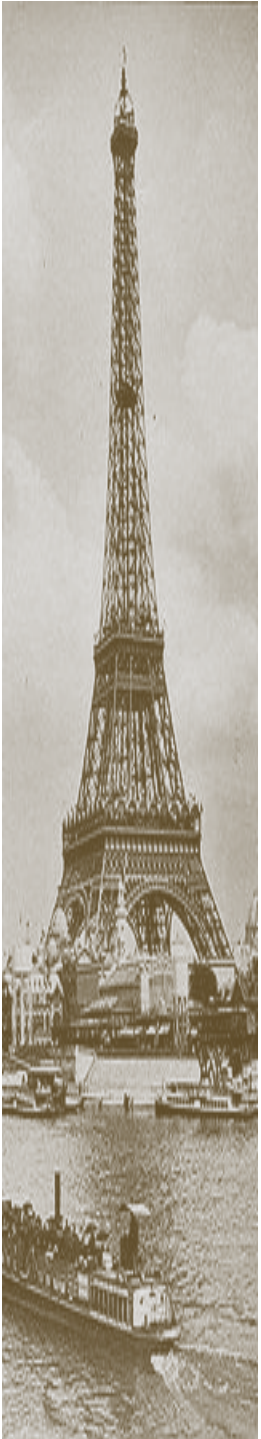


# The Communards





# Paris City Hall Destroyed





# Attempted Communal Reforms

- \* Allowed trade unions & workers cooperatives to take over factories not in use and start them up again.
- \* Set up unemployment exchanges in town halls.
- \* Provide basic elementary education for all → they were strongly against church-controlled schools.
- \* Attempted to set up girls schools.
- \* Day nurseries near factories for working mothers.



**Too little time to accomplish much!**







# First Communist Revolution?



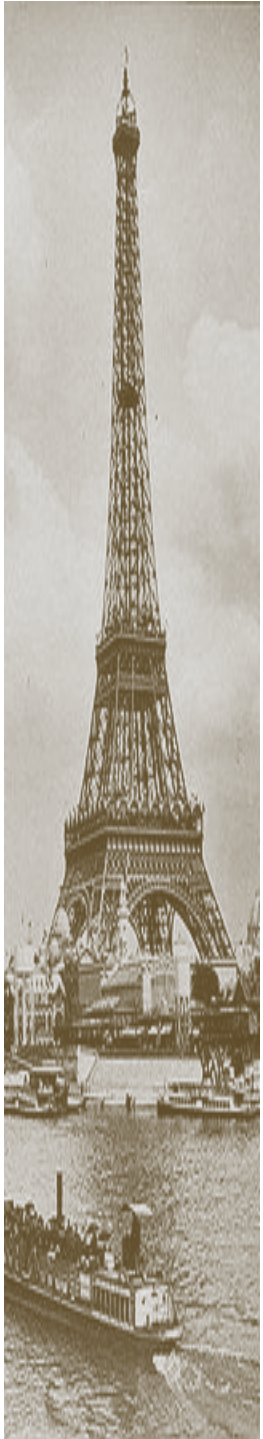
It served as an inspiration to later revolutionaries like Vladimir Lenin.

- \* 25,000 Communards killed.
- \* 35,000 were arrested.



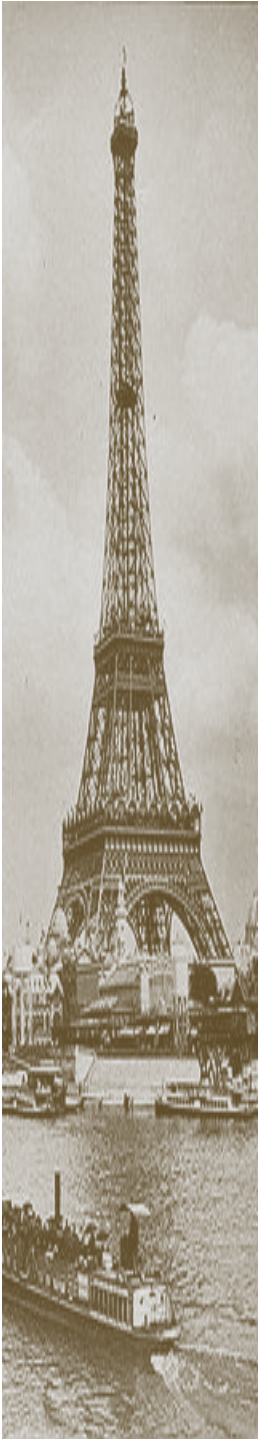


# Communard Casualties



# The Third French Republic:

## Government Structure





# Declaring the 3<sup>rd</sup> French Republic







# An Overview of the 3<sup>rd</sup> French Republic

- ★ Politically very unstable.
  - Rivalry between monarchists and republicans.
  - A number of scandals:
    - ❖ The Boulanger Affair.
    - ❖ The Panama Canal Scandal.
    - ❖ The Dreyfus Affair [*L'Affaire*]
- ★ Because there were so many factions, all governments were coalitions.
- ★ Still, it survived longer than any other regime since 1789!





# The Constitution

## \* The President:

- Head of state → little political power.
  - Right to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies with the support of the Senate.
  - Right to nominate the new head of government.
  - Played an important role in foreign affairs.

## \* The Senate:

- Elected by mayors & councillors in the counties throughout France.
- Nicknamed the “Chamber of Agriculture” because the countryside was over represented.







# The Constitution

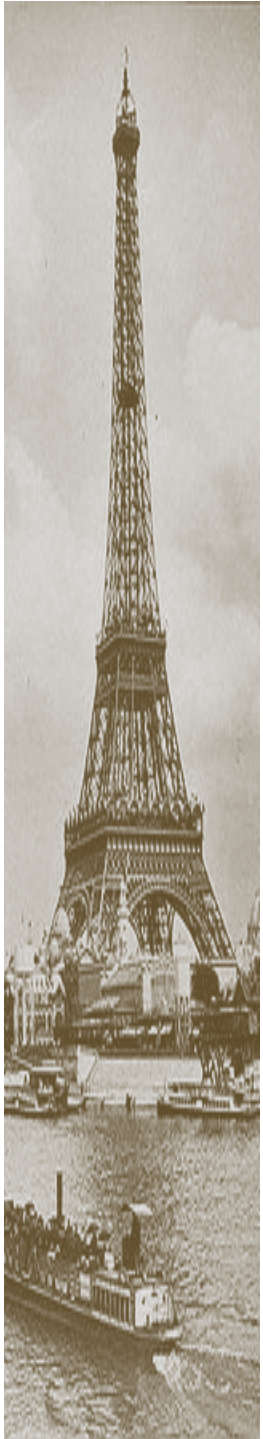
## \* The Senate:

- Senators elected every nine years.
- Very conservative body → able to block progressive legislation.

## \* The Chamber of Deputies:

- Chosen every four years.
- 600 members elected by universal male suffrage.
- There was no organized party system.
- Major political groupings in the Chamber:
  - Socialists → many were Marxists.
  - Moderate Republicans → middle class.
  - Radicals → anti-clerical.
  - Monarchists → Catholics, Bonapartists, etc.





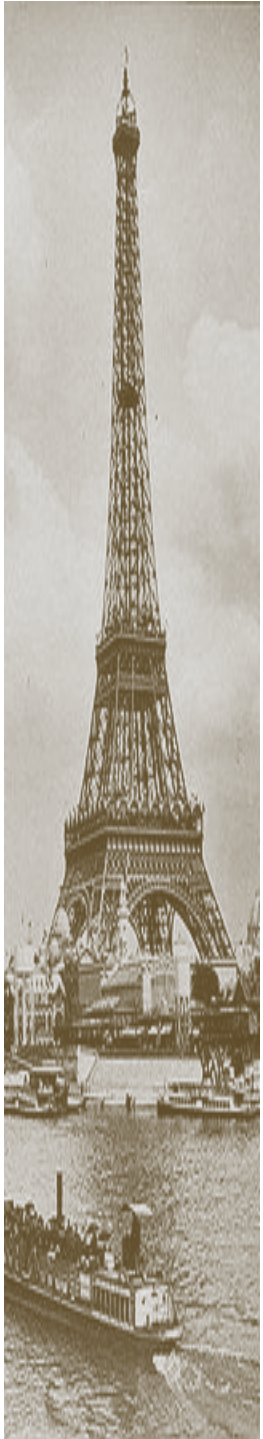
# The Third French Republic:

## Scandals





# 1. The Boulanger Affair



- \* *Bonapartism without a Bonaparte.*
- \* Most of the army was dominated by monarchists.
- \* BUT, the Minister of War, **General Georges Boulanger**, was a republican.

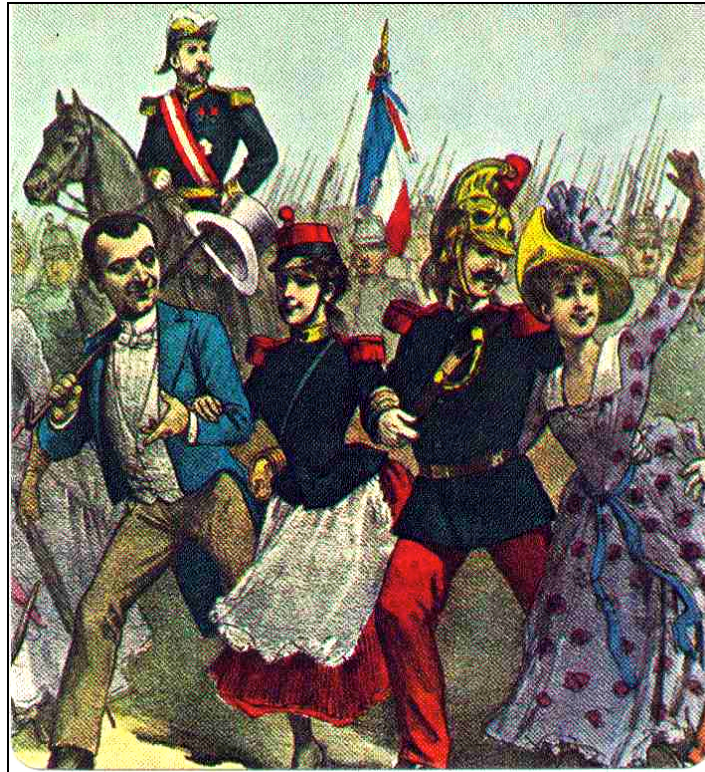






# 1. The Boulanger Affair

- \* Very popular with the troops → the government was suspicious and removed him in 1887.







# 1. The Boulanger Affair

- \* Now a national figure, he was the focal point of conservative opposition to the republican government.
  - Was part of a plot to overthrow the Republic.
  - Was summoned to trial, but he fled to Belgium where he committed suicide on the grave of his mistress.
- \* Boulanger's fall increased public confidence in the Republic.





## 2. The Panama Canal Scandal : Ferdinand de Lesseps

- \* President of the French Company that worked on the Panama Canal.
  - Govt. officials took bribes from the company to withhold news from the public that it was in serious economic debt.
  - One billion francs affecting 800,000 investors.

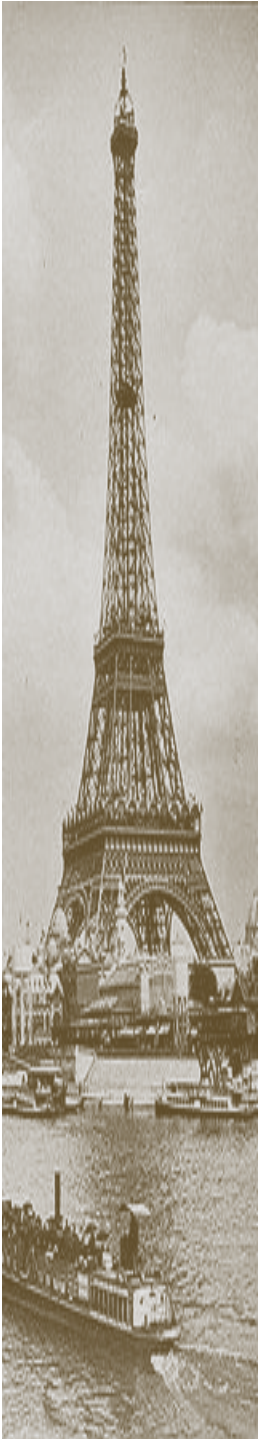




### 3. The Dreyfus Affair

- \* In 1894 a list of French military documents [called a *bordereau*] were found in the waste basket of the German Embassy in Paris.
- \* French counter-intelligence suspected **Captain Alfred Dreyfus**, from a wealthy Alsatian Jewish family → he was one of the few Jews on the General Staff.





### 3. The Dreyfus Affair

- \* Dreyfus was tried, convicted of treason, and sent to Devil's Island in French Guiana.
- \* The real culprit was a Major Esterhazy, whose handwriting was the same as that on the *bordereau*.
  - The government tried him and found him not guilty in two days.



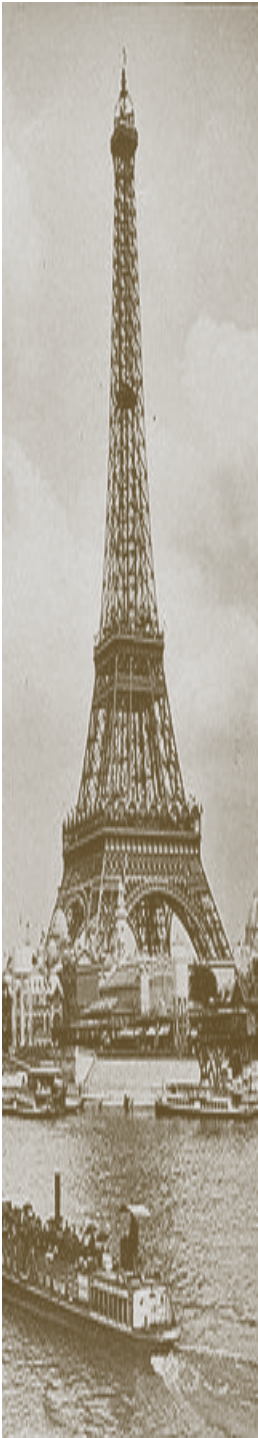


# 3. The Dreyfus Affair

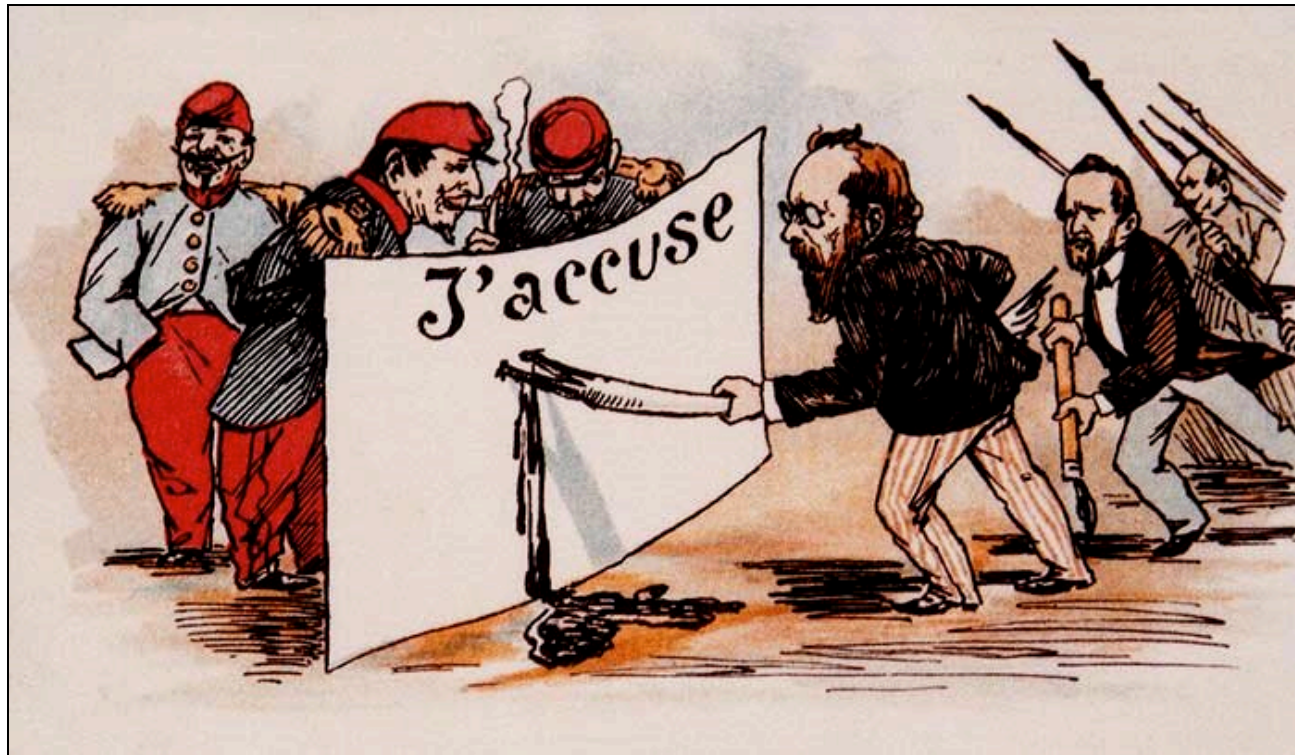


\* A famous author, **Emile Zola**, published an open letter called ***J'Accuse!***

- He accused the army of a mistrial and cover-up.
- The government prosecuted him for libel.
- Found him guilty → sentenced to a year in prison.

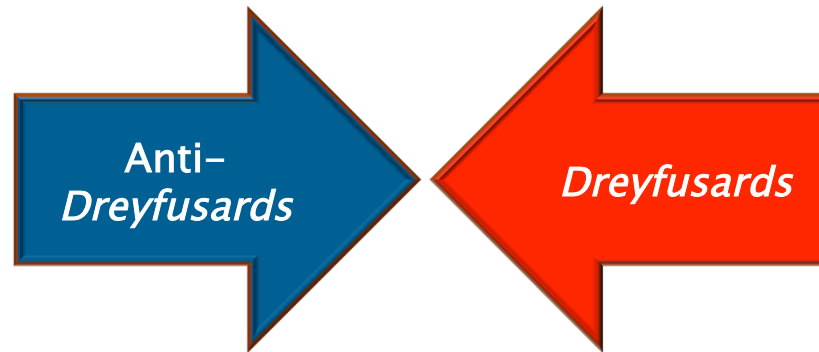


# *J'Accuse!*

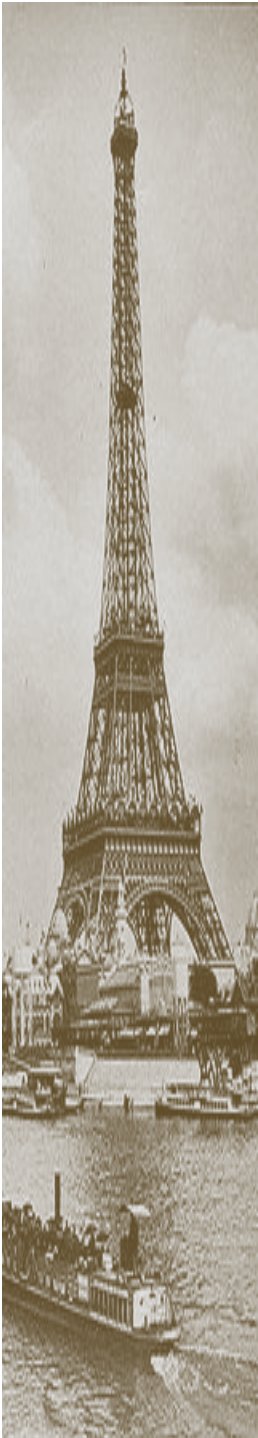




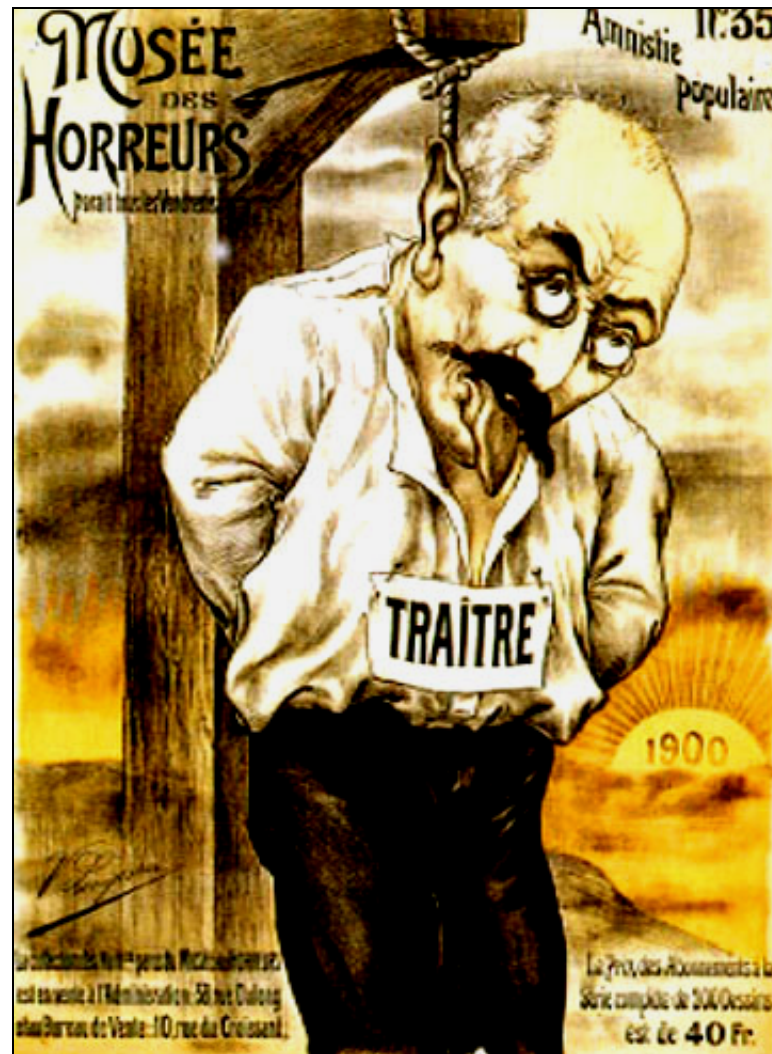
### 3. The Dreyfus Affair



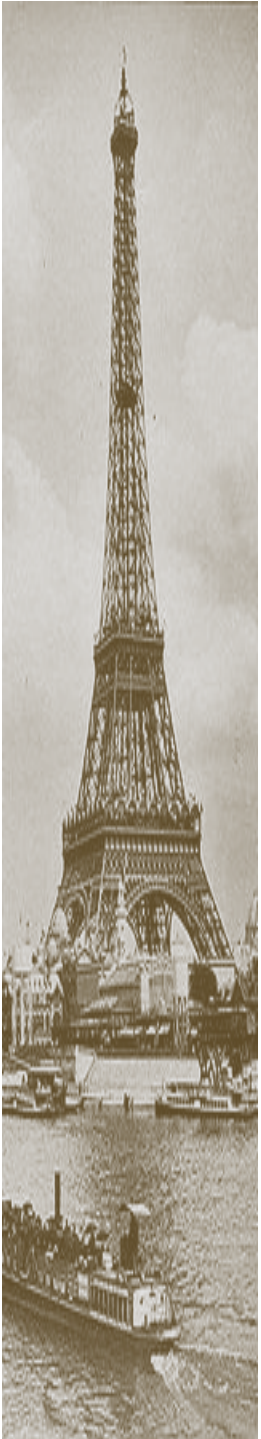
- \* Public opinion was divided → it reflected the divisions in Fr. society.
- \* The **Dreyfusards** were anti-clericals, intellectuals, free masons, & socialists.
- \* For **Anti-Dreyfusards**, the honor of the army was more important than Dreyfus' guilt or innocence.
  - Were army supporters, monarchists, & Catholics.



# Dreyfus, the Traitor!





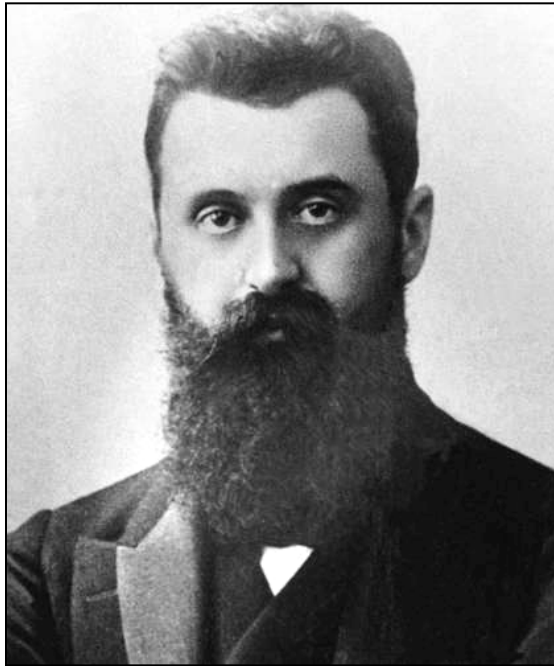
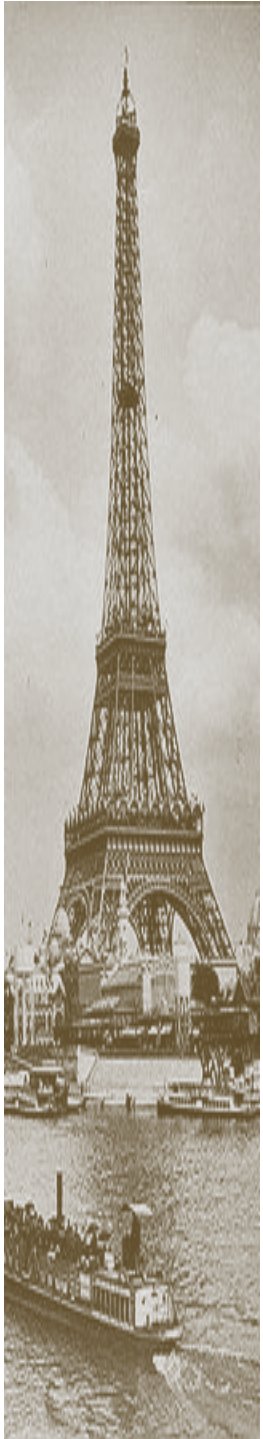


### 3. The Dreyfus Affair

- \* Dreyfus finally got a new trial in 1899.
- \* He was brought back from Devil's Island *white-haired and broken*.
- \* Results:
  - Found guilty again, BUT with extenuating circumstances.
  - Was given a presidential pardon.
  - Exonerated completely in 1906.
  - Served honorably in World War I.
  - Died in 1935.



# The Zionist Movement

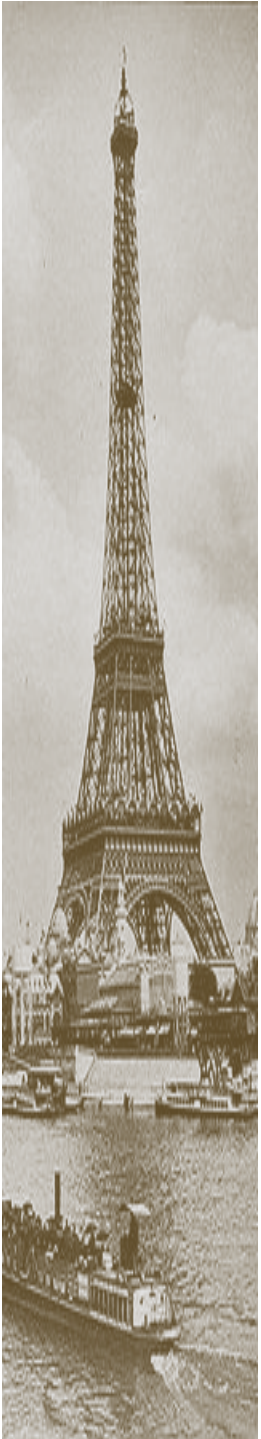


Theodore Herzl  
[1860-1904]

- \* Was motivated by the Dreyfus trial to write the book, *Der Judenstaat*, or *The Jewish State* in 1896.
- \* Creates the First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland.
- \* Herzl-“Father of Modern Zionism.”







## New Wave of Anti-Catholicism

- \* The anti-clerical, republican left took power in the National Assembly in 1879.
  - This anti-Catholicism was a remnant of the French Revolution.
  - They stayed in power until 1914.
- \* **Ferry Laws** [1879-1885]:
  - Named after Jules Ferry, one of the ablest politicians of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Republic.
  - Were the first major attempt at educational reform.





# Ferry Laws

- \* Only the State could grant degrees.
- \* Free education in public primary schools.
- \* Religious instruction was excluded from the State school curriculum.
- \* Unauthorized religious orders [Marists, Dominicans, and Jesuits, who were eventually expelled from France] were forbidden to teach.
- \* Authorized Catholic orders could NOT teach in French public schools.
- \* State improved training of teachers.



**They created a deep division between  
Church and State!**







# The Third French Republic:

## Foreign Policy





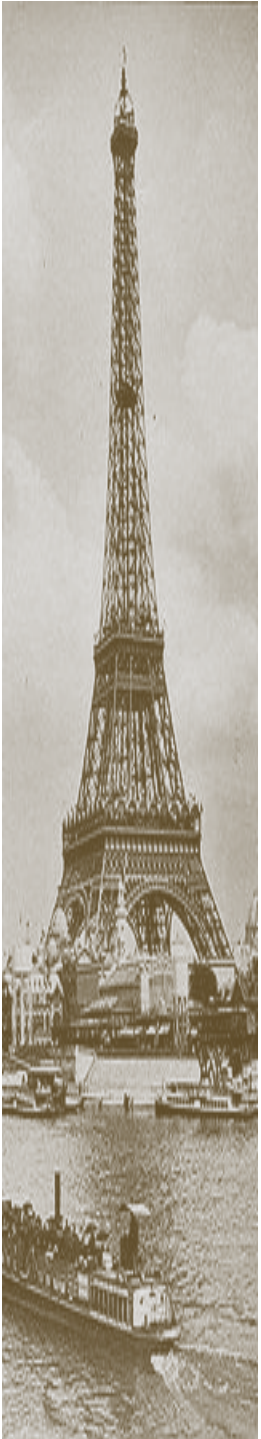
# Aims of French Foreign Policy

1. To regain the provinces of Alsace & Lorraine lost to Germany in 1871.
2. To end her isolation in international affairs after the Franco-Prussian War.
3. To expand her colonial empire and regain some of her prestige lost after the Franco-Prussian War.





# A National Trauma: France's Loss of Alsace-Lorraine





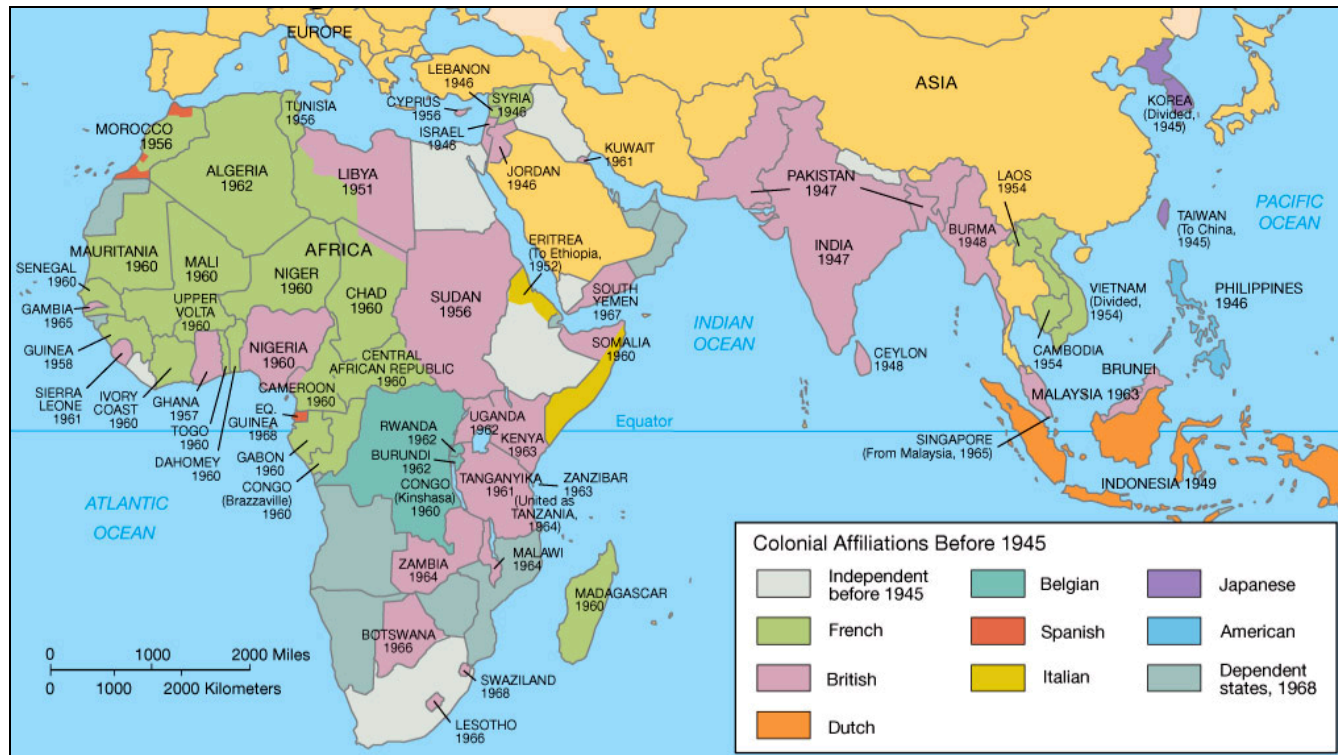
# French Colonial Empire

- \* The empire set up under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Republic was the greatest France had ever possessed.
- \* Jules Ferry played a huge role in French empire building.
- \* Ironically, two-thirds of the missionary priests outside Europe were French!
- \* By 1914, France was the second largest colonial power in the world and the largest in Africa.





# France's Colonial Empire



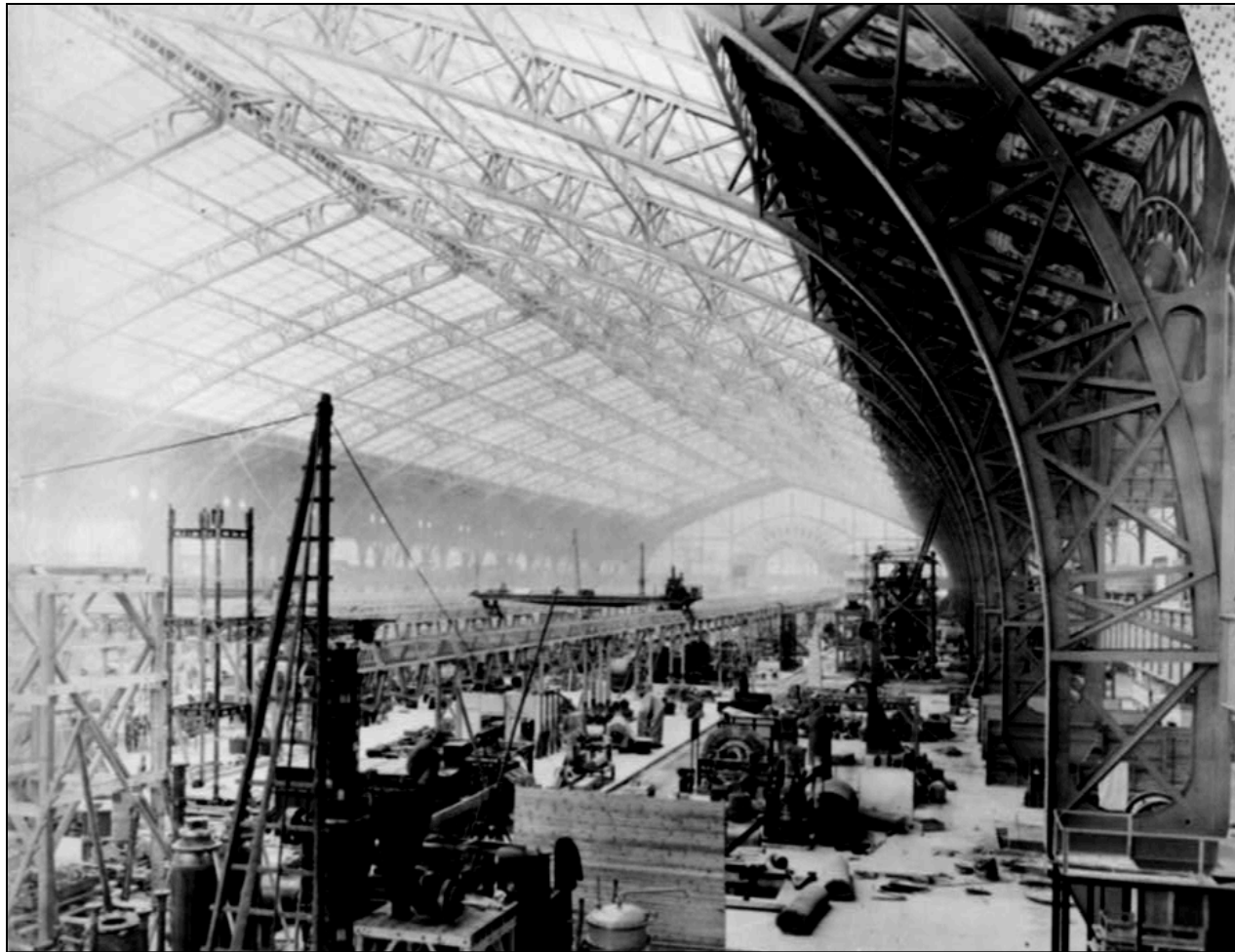
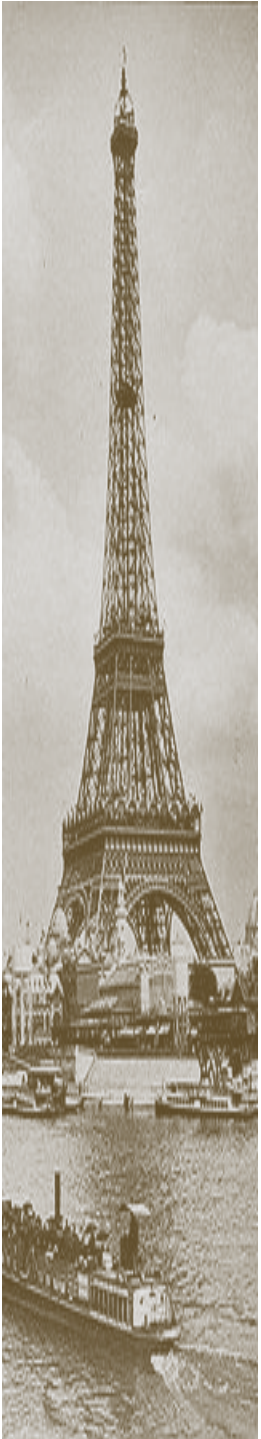
# 1889 Paris Exposition

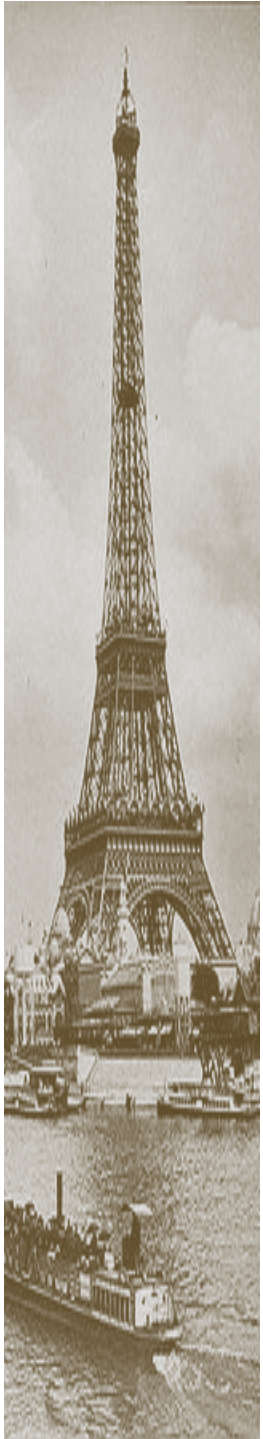
- \* World's Fair held in honor of the French Revolution Centennial.
- \* The Eiffel Tower, completed in 1889, served as the entrance to the Fair.





# 1889 Paris Exposition: Gallery of Machinery





# Victorian/ Edwardian England

Victoria Died 1901  
Son Edward VII then ruled





QUEEN VICTORIA-1837-1901



EDWARD VII-1901-1910





# Britain: 1850-1870s

- \* The most prosperous period in British history.
  - Unprecedented economic growth.
  - Heyday of free trade.
  - New fields of expansion → shipbuilding from wood to iron.
    - By 1870, Britain's carrying trade enjoyed a virtual monopoly.
  - British engineers were building RRs all over the world.
  - Britain's foreign holdings nearly doubled.
- \* BUT, Britain's prosperity didn't do away with political discontent!





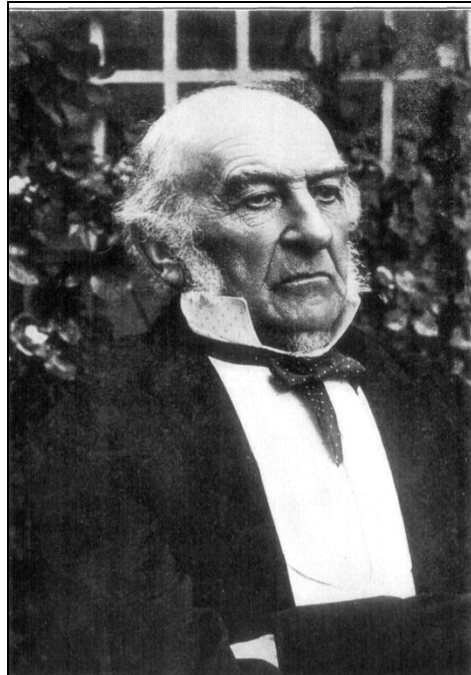


# The “Victorian Compromise”

- \* Both Tories and Whigs had considered the 1832 Reform Bill as the FINAL political reform.
- \* Therefore, the aims of the two political parties seemed indistinguishable.
- \* But, by the 1860s, the middle class and working class had grown → they wanted the franchise expanded!
- \* This era saw the realignment of political parties in the House of Commons:
  - Tory Party → Conservative Party under **Benjamin Disraeli**.
  - Whig Party → Liberal Party under **William Gladstone**.

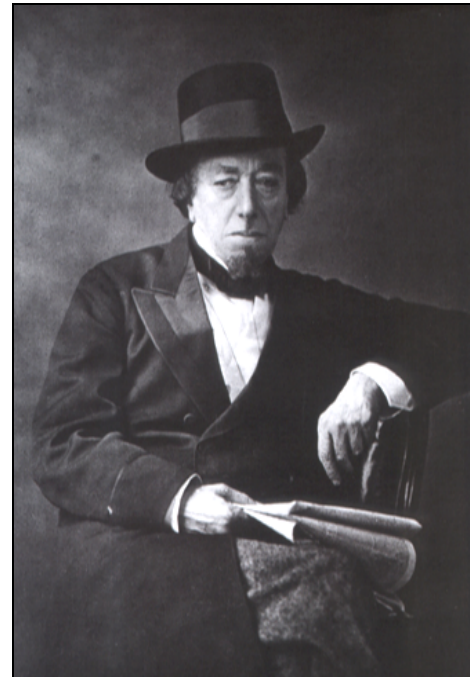


# The Two “Great Men”



\* **Benjamin Disraeli**,  
Conservative Prime  
Minister

- 1868
- 1874-1880



\* **William Gladstone**,  
Liberal Prime  
Minister

- 1868-1874
- 1880-1885
- 1886
- 1892-1894

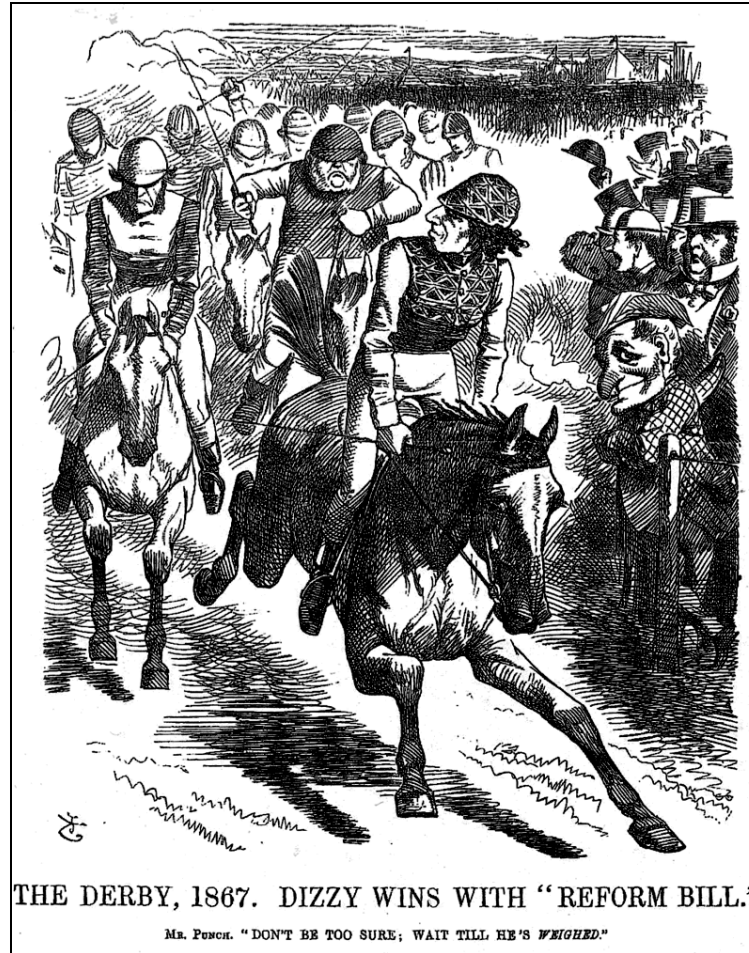






# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reform Bill - 1867

- \* In 1866, Gladstone introduced a moderate reform bill that was defeated by the Conservatives.
- \* A more radical reform bill was introduced by Disraeli in 1867, passed largely with some Liberal support.





# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reform Bill - 1867

## \* Disraeli's Goals:

- Give the Conservative Party control over the reform process.
- Labor would be grateful and vote Conservative.

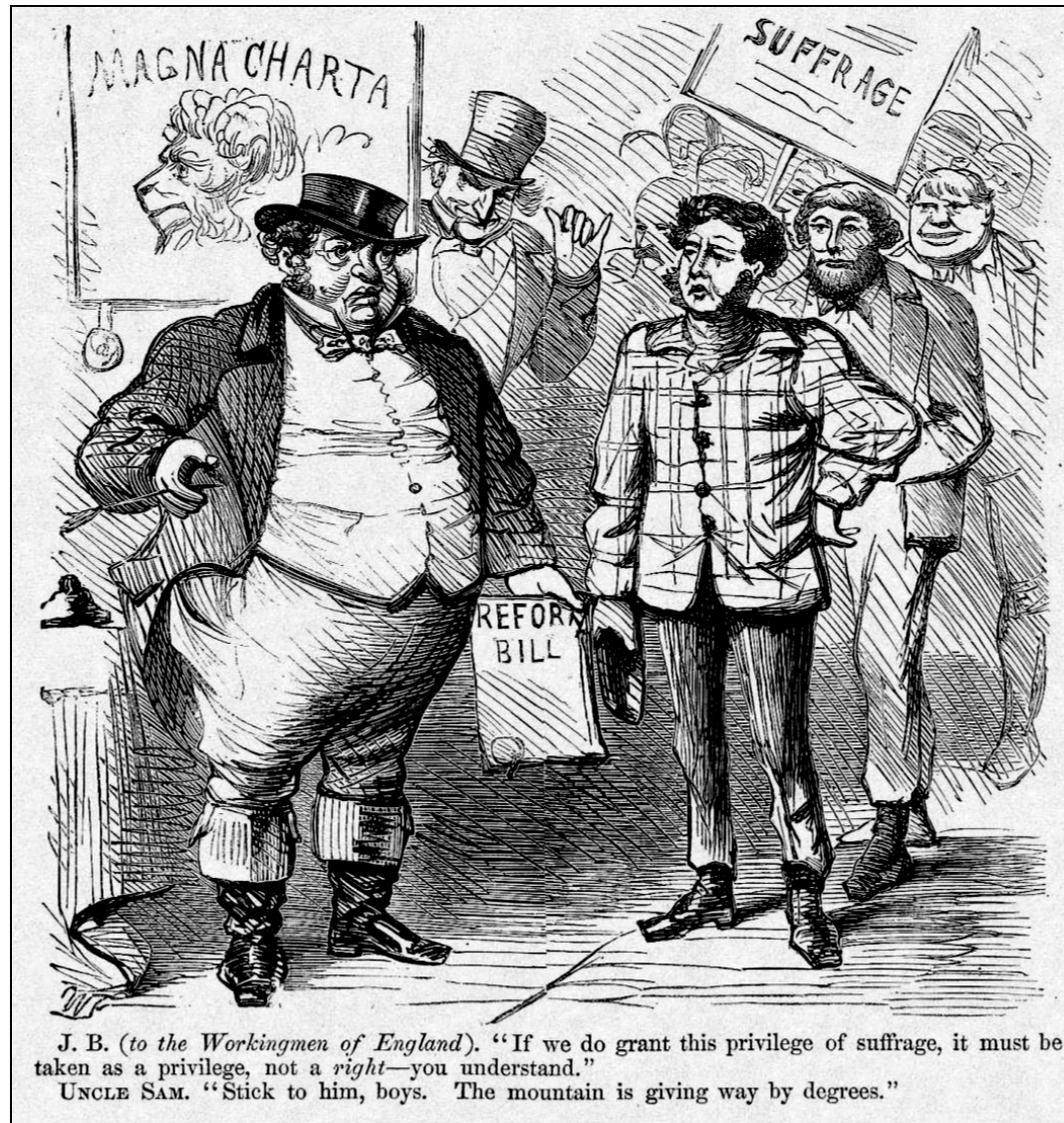
## \* Components of the Bill:

- Extended the franchise by 938,427 → an increase of 88%.
- Vote given to male householders and male lodgers paying at least £10 for room.
- Eliminated rotten boroughs with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants.
- Extra representation in Parliament to larger cities like Liverpool & Manchester.





# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reform Bill - 1867

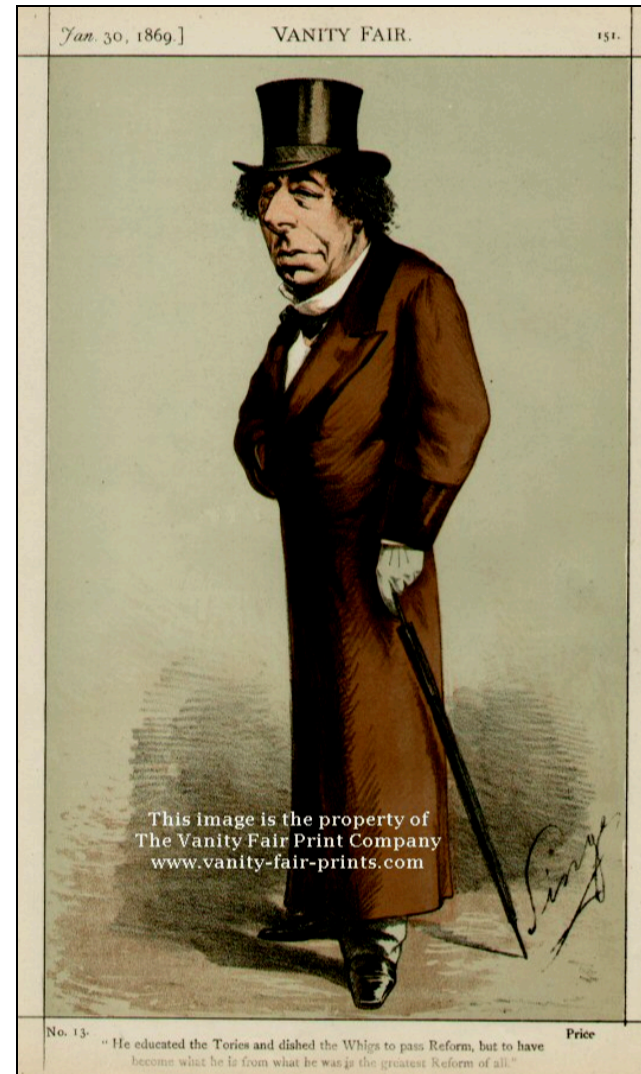






# Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)

- \* A strong imperialist.
  - **“Greater England”** foreign policy.
- \* Respected by Queen Victoria.







# William Gladstone (1809-1898)



- \* Queen Victoria couldn't stand him.
- \* Tried to deal with the "Irish Question."
- \* Supported a **"Little England"** foreign policy.





# Gladstone's 1<sup>st</sup> Ministry

## ★ Goals: [**“Gladstonianism”**]

1. Decrease public spending.
2. Reform laws that prevented people from acting freely to improve themselves.
  - He's against privilege & supports a meritocracy.
  - Protect democracy through education.
3. Promote peace abroad to help reduce spending and taxation, and to help enhance trade.
  - Low tariffs.
  - All political questions are moral questions!







# Gladstone's 1<sup>st</sup> Ministry

## ★ Accomplishments:

- 1868: **Army reform** → peacetime flogging was illegal.
- 1870: **Education Act** → elementary education made available to Welsh & English children between 5-13 years.
- 1870: **Irish Land Act** → curtailed absentee Protestant landowners from evicting their Irish Catholic tenants without compensation.



# Gladstone's 1<sup>st</sup> Ministry

## ★ Accomplishments (con't.):

- 1872: **Ballot Act** → secret ballot for local and general elections..
- Civil service exams introduced for many government positions.





# Disraeli's 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministry

## ★ Accomplishments:

### ■ Domestic Policy

- 1875: **Public Health Act** → govt. to create a modern sewer system in the big cities & establish a sanitary code.
- 1875: **Pure Food & Drug Act**.



# Disraeli's 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministry

## ★ Accomplishments:

### ■ Domestic Policy

- 1876: **Education Act**
- 1878: **Employers & Workmen Act** → allowed workers to sue employers in civil courts if they broke legal contracts.







# Gladstone's 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministry

## ★ Accomplishments:

### ■ Domestic Policy

#### ➤ 1884 Reform Bill

- ❖ Extended the franchise to agricultural laborers.
- ❖ Gave the counties the same franchise as the boroughs.
- ❖ Added 6,000,000 to the total number who could vote in parliamentary elections.

#### ➤ 1885: **Redistribution of Seats Act** → changes M.P. seats in Commons to reflect new demographic changes.





# Gladstone's Last Ministries

## ★ 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministry: 1886

- First introduced an **Irish Home Rule Bill**.
  - This issue split the Liberal Party.
  - Gladstone lost his position in a few months.

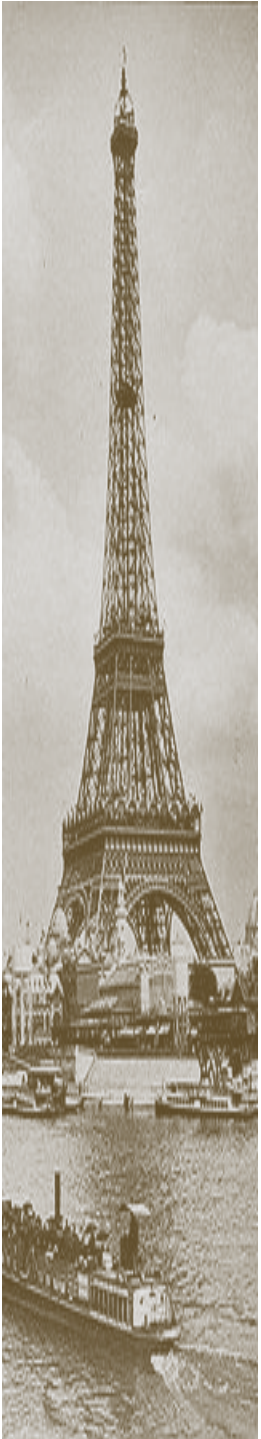
## ★ 4<sup>th</sup> Ministry: 1892-1894

- 1893: Reintroduced a **Home Rule Bill**.
  - Provided for an Irish Parliament.
  - Did NOT offer Ireland independence!
  - Passed by the Commons, but rejected in the House of Lords.





# Home Rule for Ireland??

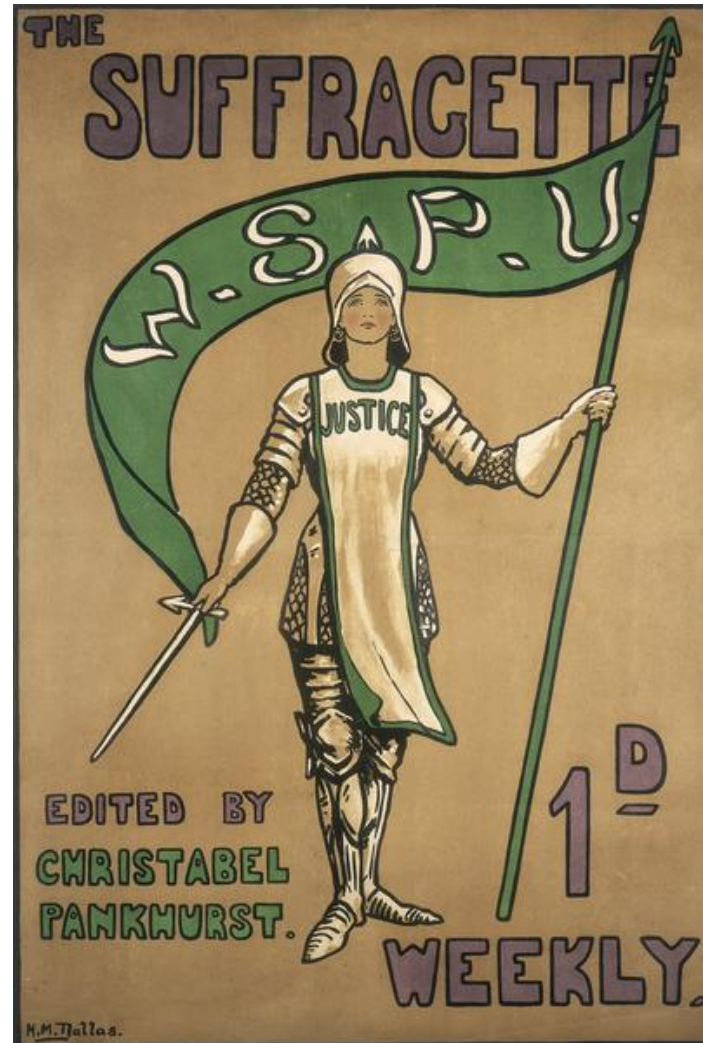


Gladstone debates Home Rule in Commons.





# Women's Social & Political Union [W.S.P.U.]







# Emmeline Pankhurst

- \* 1858-1928.
- \* Her husband & children were all involved in the suffrage movement.
- \* They became militants & were arrested and imprisoned.
- \* 1917: She and her daughter, Christabel, formed the **Women's Party** in 1917:
  - Equal pay for equal work.
  - Equal marriage & divorce laws.
  - Equality of rights & opportunities in public service.
  - A national system of maternity benefits.



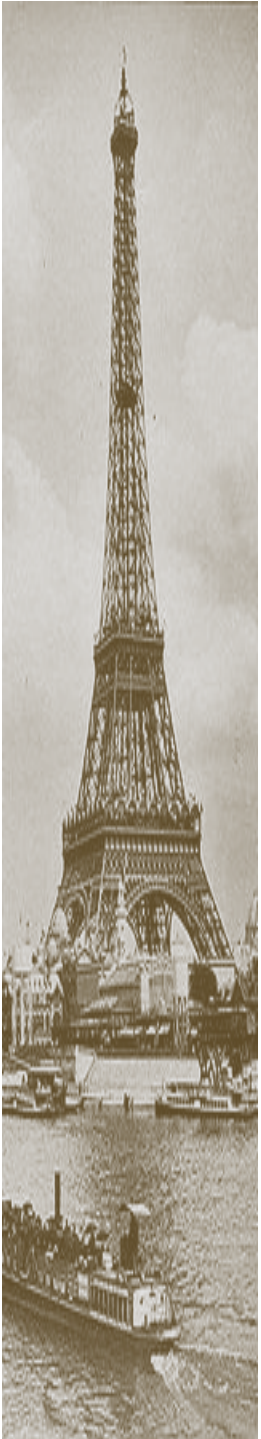
# Representation of the People Act (1918)



- \* Women over 30 got the right to vote.
- \* All men gained suffrage.
  - Property qualifications were completely eliminated!
- \* **Reform Act of 1928**
  - Women over 21 years of age gained the right to vote at last!







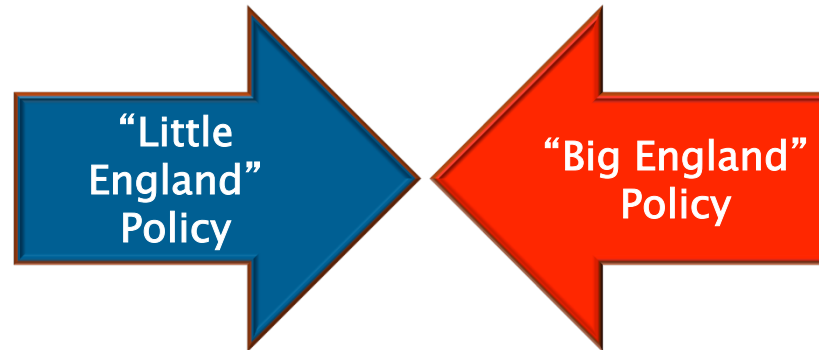
# Victorian/ Edwardian England:

## Foreign Policy





# The Foreign Policy Debate

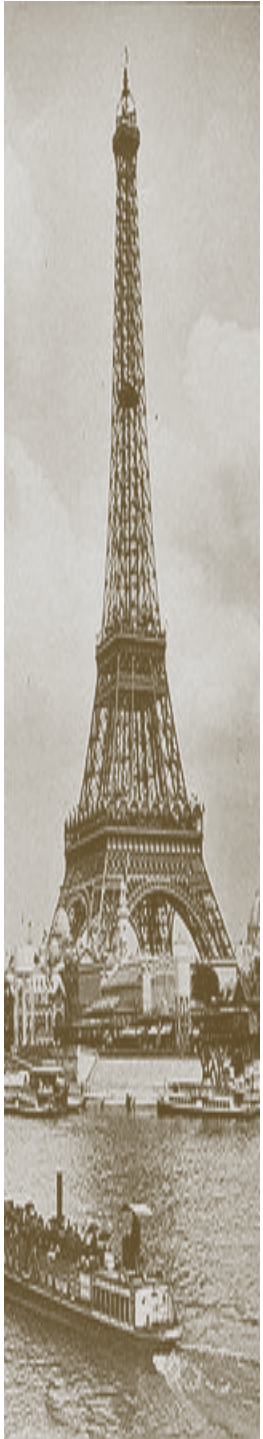


- \* Gladstone.
- \* Liberal Party.
- \* England must invest in her own people at home.
- \* Try negotiations, rather than costly military solutions.

- \* Disraeli
- \* Conservative Party
- \* England must be the greatest colonial power.
- \* Spend £ on supporting the empire.







# Victorian England:

## Foreign Policy Issues





# 1. “Scramble for Africa”

- \* 1869: Disraeli pushed for the completion of the Suez Canal.







# 1. “Scramble for Africa”

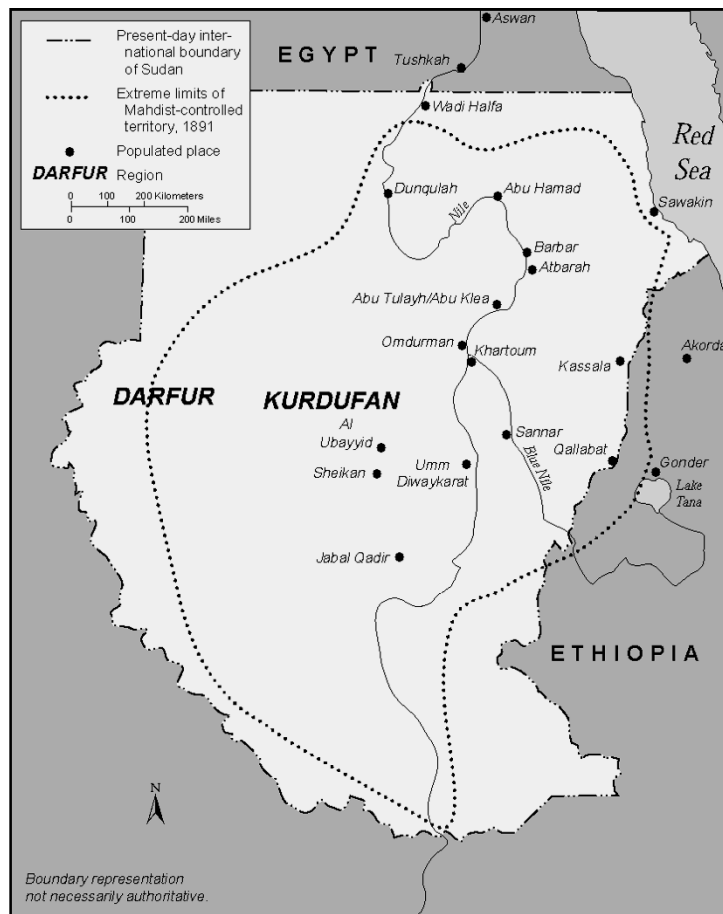
- \* Gladstone opposed the “Mad Scramble.”
- \* 1880-1881: First Boer War in South Africa [Gladstone].





# 1. “Scramble for Africa”

- \* 1884-1885: *Mahdi* uprising in the Sudan [Gladstone].



Muhammad Ahmad  
“al-Mahdi”



Charles Gordon  
“Pasha”







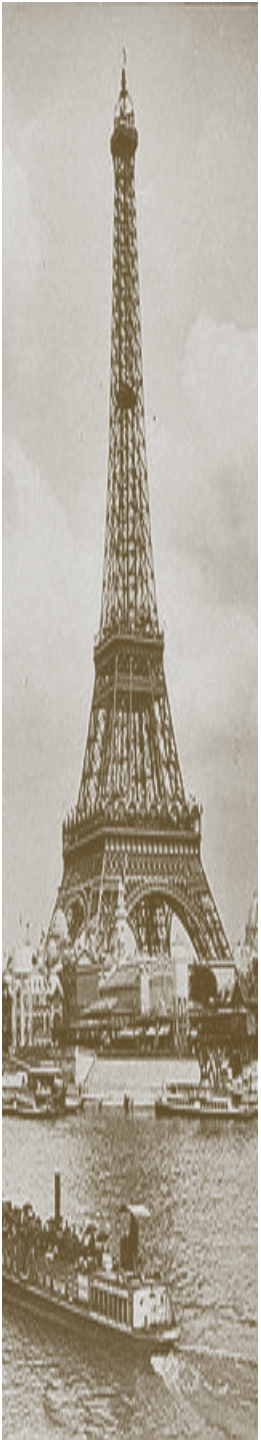
## 2. Middle East

- \* 1878-1880: Second Anglo-Afghan War





# Congress of Berlin (1878)



- \* Purpose → Great Powers & Ottomans met to settle issues from the Russo-Turkish War.  
Balkan Issue
- \* Disraeli represented England.

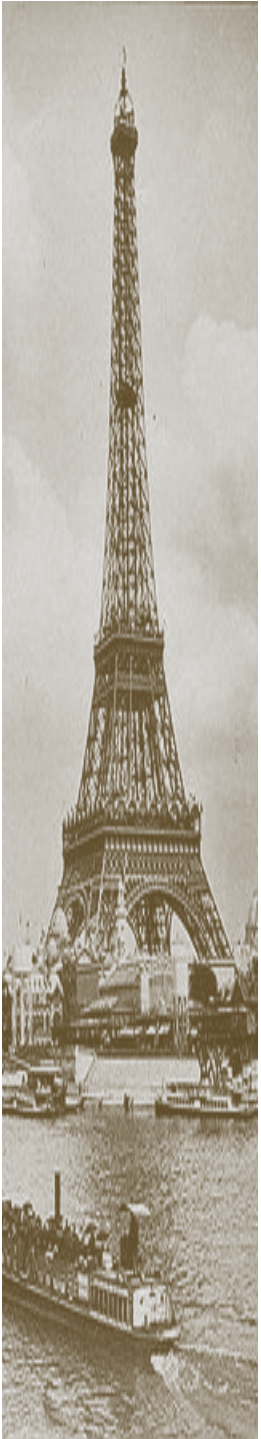




### 3. India: The British *Raj*

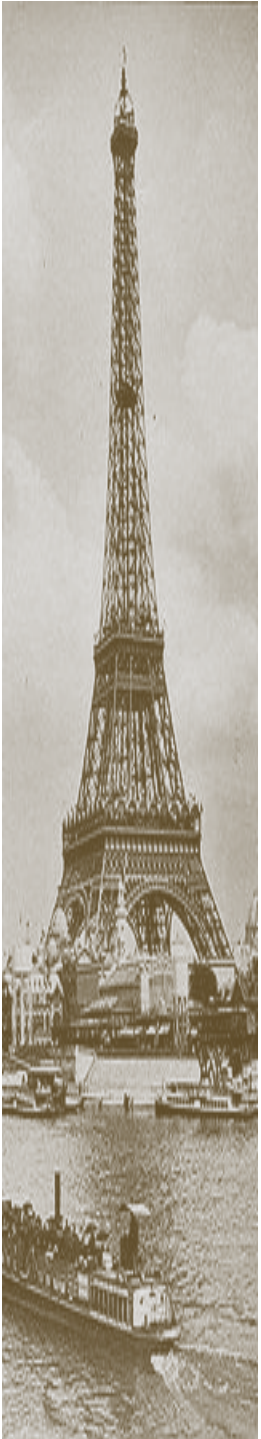


The new “Empress of India” receiving the “Jewel in the Crown” of her Empire.





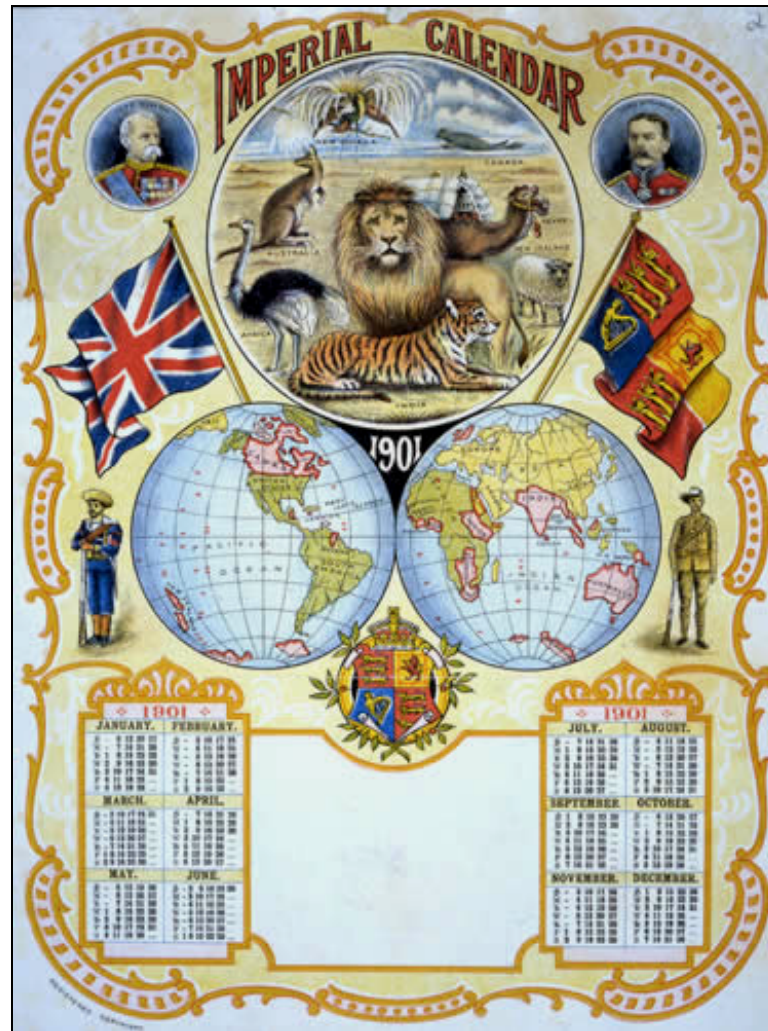
# Britain Is Everywhere!







# ***The Sun Never Sets on the British Empire***



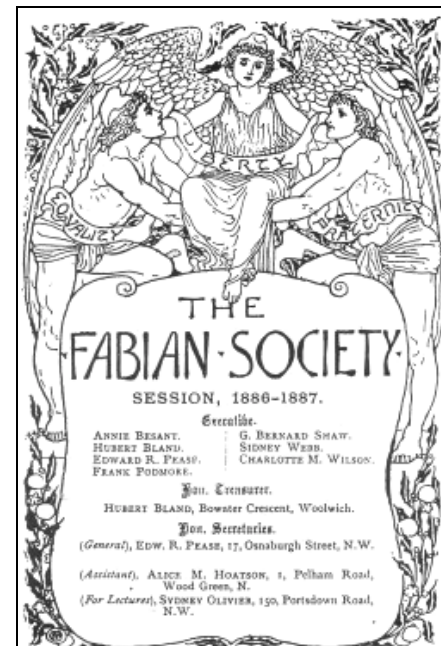






# Fabianism

- ★ A British socialist intellectual movement founded in the mid-1880s.
- ★ Purpose → advance socialism by working through the political system, not through revolution.
- ★ Laid the foundations for the British Labour Party.
- ★ Famous **Fabian Society** members:
  - George Bernard Shaw.
  - H. G. Wells.
  - Sidney & Beatrice Webb.
  - Emmeline Pankhurst.
  - Bertram Russell.
  - John Maynard Keynes.



# England's Economic Decline?

## (1870s-1914)

- ★ Germany & the U. S. became England's chief economic rivals.
- ★ Influx of cheap agricultural products from overseas caused a rapid decline in British farming.
- ★ Germany & U. S. overtake Britain in basic iron & steel production.
- ★ England's share of world trade fell from 23% in 1876 to 15% in 1913.
- ★ British science & technological education lagged behind Germany.
- ★ England is slow to modernize her aging industrial infrastructure.
- ★ England clings to free trade while everyone else is erecting tariff walls.







# The British Labour Party

- \* Founded in 1900 by the Scotsman, **Keir Hardie**.
  - The growth of labor unions gave voice to socialism in Britain.
  - By 1906, it won 26 seats in Commons.
  - Had to form a political coalition with the Liberal Party.
  - By the 1920s, Labour would replace the Liberals as one of the two major British political parties.





# The Beginnings of the “Welfare State”?

- \* Labour's Political Agenda:
  - Gradual socialization of key industries & utilities.
  - Workman's Compensation Act.
  - State employment bureaus.
  - Minimum wage set.
  - Aid to dependent children & the elderly.
  - Old age pension to all over 70.
  - National Insurance Act.

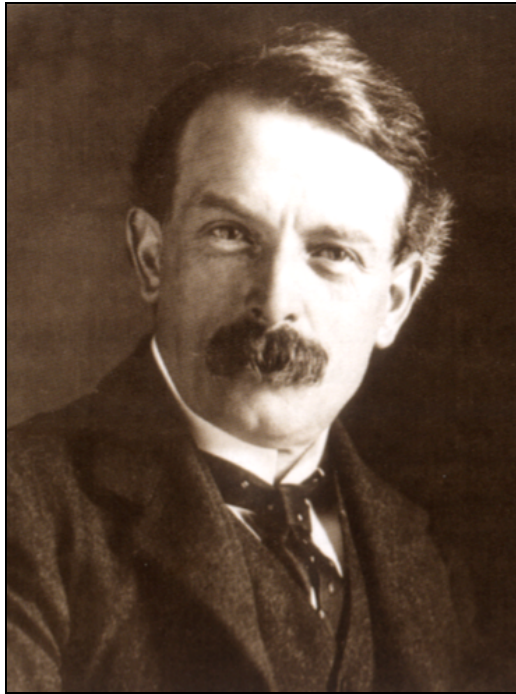


**How to pay for all of this??**





# The “People’s Budget”



- \* The Liberals dominated government from 1906 to 1924.
- \* The Liberal Chancellor of the Exchequer, **David Lloyd George**, presented a “**People’s Budget**” in 1911.
  - Increase income taxes for those in the higher brackets.
  - Raise the inheritance tax.





# The Parliament Act of 1911

- \* A political crisis.
  - WHY? → Lords had traditionally approved all revenue bills passed by the Commons in the past.
  - By threatening to create enough new Liberal peer to control that chamber, **King George V** forced the House of Lords to pass this bill!!
- \* Also known as the 4<sup>th</sup> Reform Bill.
- \* Provisions:
  - Members of Commons would be paid a salary.

